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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE APPLICATION OF:

LEO ERNEST MANZER CASE NO.: CL2055 US DIV

SERIAL NO.: 10/396212 GROUP ART UNIT: 1626

(OF PARENT) (OF PARENT)

FILED: DECEMBER 3, 2003 EXAMINER: TSANG, REI SHIAO

(OF PARENT)

FOR: PRODUCTION OF 5-METHYL-N-ARYL-2-PYRROLIDONE AND 5-METHYL-N-

CYCLOALKYL-2-PYRROLIDONE BY REDUCTIVE AMINATION OF LEVULINIC

ACID WITH ARYL AMINES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Introductory Comments

This is a preliminary amendment relating to the above captioned case.

Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments prior to the examination of this case.